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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 03438.0047

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sven BJØRKGÅRD et al.

Serial No.: to be Assigned

U.S. National Stage Application of
PCT/NO 98/00356

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Entry into National Stage: June 1, 2000

For: DEVICE FOR HOLDING
TWO OBJECTS TOGETHER

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application in light of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please insert new page 9, the Abstract of the Disclosure, in the above-identified application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, between lines 1 and 2, insert the following heading:

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--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

Page 1, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

--DESCRIPTION OF RELATED ART

In US 4,225,263 there is disclosed a device for holding together two objects where a first object comprises a pin projecting into a hole in the second object, wherein a groove in the wall of the hole receives a stop member. The groove tapers and the stop member is clamped between edge areas of the pin and an element, at least one of the edge areas being chamfered.

A similar device is disclosed in US 3,374,015.--.

Page 2, lines 3-7, delete the two paragraphs: "The object of the invention . . . indicated in the claims." in their entirety and substitute the following therefor:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the invention is to provide new use of a device of the type mentioned in the introduction whereby the above-mentioned drawbacks may be avoided.

The invention relates to use of a device comprising a first and second object, wherein the first object has a pin, whose free end section projects into a hole of the second object, and the device impedes axial relative movement of the pin in the hole, where there is provided in the hole wall a groove which extends along a transverse plane in relation to the hole's longitudinal axis and is tapered in the direction away from the hole, in which groove there is inserted a stopper with a first section which projects into the groove and a second section which projects away from

the groove and into the hole, and the first object further comprises an element which may be tightened axially towards the end section, and the pin and the element near the hole wall have mutually opposing edge areas, which are arranged to abut against and by drawing together the element and the pin, to securely clamp between them the second section of the stopper.

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Page 2, after line 22, insert the following heading:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the PATENT CLAIM from the amended sheet of the annexes attached to the International Preliminary Examination Report as follows:

[PATENT CLAIM]--What is claimed is:

1. Use of a device for interconnecting a first and a second object,
[-] wherein the first object has a pin [(2;40;56;90)], whose free end section projects into a hole [(4;98)] of the second object, and the device impedes axial relative movement of the pin [(2;40;56;90)] in the hole [(4;98)], where there is provided in the hole wall a groove [(8;32;54) extending] which extends along a transverse plane in relation to the hole's [(4;98)] longitudinal axis and is tapered in the direction away from the hole, in which groove there is inserted a stopper [(10;30;50)] with a first section [(12;34)] which projects into the groove [(8;32;54)], and a second section [(16;44)] which projects away from the groove [(8;32;54)] and into the hole [(4;98)], and the first object further comprises an

element [(20;42;58)] which may be tightened axially towards the end section, and the pin [(2;40;56;90)] and the element [(20;42;58)] near the hole wall have mutually opposing edge areas, which are arranged to abut against and by drawing together the element [(2;42;58)] and the pin [(2;40;56;90)], to securely clamp between them the second section [(16;44)] of the stopper [(10;30;50)], [-]

as a first, inner joint member of a universal joint [(80)] connecting arms [(74,76)] which are connected to a chassis [(70;72)] of a vehicle, with a wheel axle [(82)] of the vehicle for lateral securing of an axle [(82)] relative to the chassis [(70;72)], where the outer surface of the second object is convex and is in the form of a part of a ball surface [(96)].

REMARKS

Claim 1 is currently pending. The specification has been amended to conform it to the International Preliminary Examination Report. The amendments at page 1 of the specification are directed primarily to a discussion of the prior art. The Summary of the Invention on page 2 of the specification has been amended to avoid merely referencing the claim. Support for the amendments to the claim and specification is found in the specification and claims of the original PCT application. No new matter has been added by this Preliminary Amendment. Headings have been added to the specification according to U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 1, 2000

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Device for axial retention of a pin (2) in a hole (4). In the wall of hole (4) there is a groove (8) having a stopper (10) inserted therein. The pin (2) and an element (20) which may be tightened or pressed axially against an end portion of the pin (2), are near the hole wall provided with mutually opposing edge areas, which are arranged to retain a portion of the stopper which is protruding away from the groove (8) and into the hole (4).

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